Stated Case Status – Reference Guide

Version 1.0, December 1999

Summary: Stated Case Status

Definition

User-determined indication of the level of certainty regarding whether a person has a disease/condition.

Data Storage and Field Values

There is 1 data element used to define the data concept Stated Case Status. Note that the case status is a relevant concept that may be applied to various diseases or conditions of interest to public health

Variable Name:	*Assigned based on the associated disease/condition*
Type:	character
Length:	1
Reported to CDC:	Yes
Field Values:	1 – Confirmed
	2 – Probable
	3 – Suspect
	4 – Exposed
	5 – At Risk
	6 – Not a Case

Missing Values

If the value of the Stated Case Status data element is missing, or does not adhere to the CIPHER standard, the data element may be noted as blank to indicate a missing value. If the program requires the reason the value is missing, a separate 1-character field should be used to note the reason for the missing data. The use of a Missing Value Reason data element must adhere to the CIPHER definition and rules associated with missing data as described in Appendix I - Missing Value Reason.

Processing Overview

No special requirements.

EDI Summary

Note: EDI sections are under construction.

Discussion

Stated Case Status provides summary information about the level of certainty regarding whether specific characteristics (i.e., clinical observations, laboratory data, and epidemiologic links) indicate the presence of a given disease or condition based on observation and/or evaluation of existing data. That is, the Stated Case Status is determined by a user, based on his or her evaluation of a combination of factors including laboratory evidence, clinical symptoms or signs or observations, and epidemiologic links (exposures and associations).

While related, the Stated Case Status data concept is unlike the Calculated Case Status data concept which is a system-generated case status determined by a series of pre-coded algorithms supported within a program's software. That is, the Calculated Case Status is calculated based on system algorithms that consider and evaluate a number of relevant data elements that contain clinical, laboratory, and epidemiologic information. (Refer to the Calculated Case Status section for additional information.)

These Calculated Case Status algorithms vary by condition or disease, and can be quite complex. The responsibility for development and maintenance of these algorithms falls within the individual disease-specific program area. The algorithms are based on formal case definitions developed in collaboration with the epidemiologists at CDC and the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE), and endorsed for use by the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL). These formal case definitions are collectively published in the MMWR 1997:46(No. RR-10), and are also available on the internet. Refer to http://www.cdc.gov/epo/dphsi/casedef/intro97.htm .

In contrast to the system-generated Calculated Case Status, the user determines how to classify the Stated Case Status. Basically, Stated Case Status is based on the evaluation and diagnosis of the particular case by an epidemiologist or health officer (i.e., reflects their epidemiologic judgment).

The report of user-defined/user-determined cases in the absence of "definitive" lab evidence is critical in serving local public health needs. The timeliness of report of diseases or conditions is often critical in facilitating a local public health agency's efforts to identify and control the emergency. In such situations it is helpful to have the user-determined Stated Case Status report.

Depending on the particular condition or disease, it may be appropriate to support only a subset of the field values noted above. That is, all of the "levels" of case status (*At Risk; Exposed; Suspect; Probable; Confirmed; Not a Case*) may not apply to a particular condition or disease. Therefore, it is appropriate for a program to support Stated Case Status categories that cover only applicable classifications.

Implementation: Stated Case Status

The implementation examples noted below use generic field labels and variables names to demonstrate the Stated Case Status data concept. The implementation for a specific use of Stated Case Status can be patterned after these generic implementation examples.

Data Collection: Hardcopy Report Form

Check box fields on the hardcopy report form are used for the collection of Stated Case Status data. The reporter can check or mark the box noting the appropriate case status category. Refer to Figure 1 and Figure 2 below:

Figure 1: **Blank Hardcopy Form section used to collect Stated Case Status**

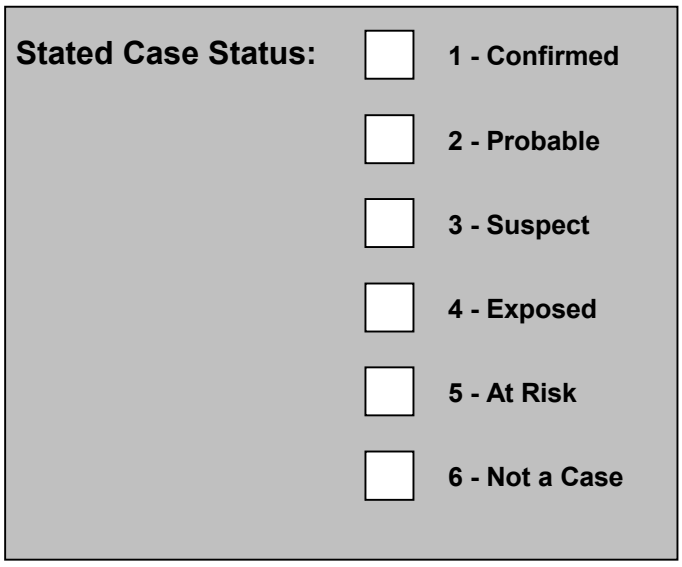
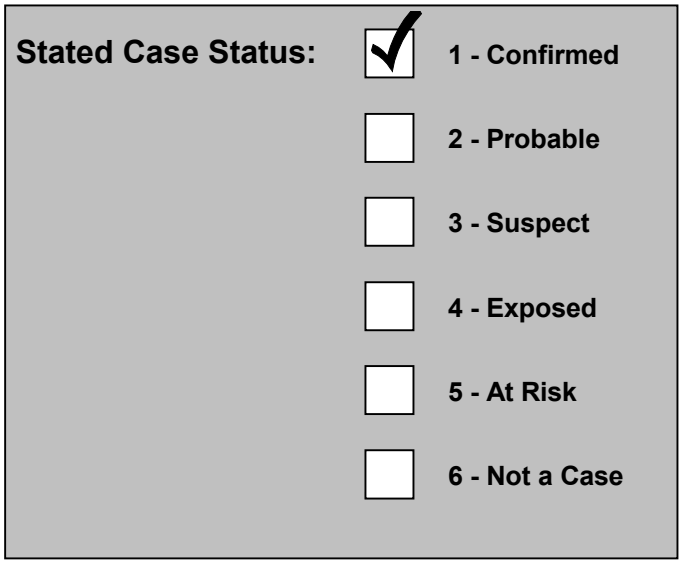


Figure 2: **Completed Hardcopy Form section used to collect Stated Case Status**



Missing Values – Hardcopy Form
Examples of hardcopy forms using the associated Missing Value Reason data element can be found in Appendix I – Missing Value Reason. The hardcopy form need only contain a Missing Value Reason if the program requires the rationale for a missing value for Stated Case Status.

Data Entry: Electronic Forms

A pull-down menu displays the valid entry options, which parallel the options noted on the collection report form as shown in Figures 3, 4, and 5 below. The portion of the valid entry options displayed outside the parentheses reflects the data that are stored.

Figure 3: **Blank Electronic Form used to collect Stated Case Status**

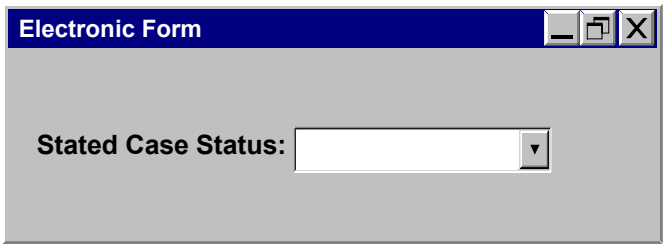


Figure 4: **Blank Electronic Form used to collect Stated Case Status, pull-down menu enabled**

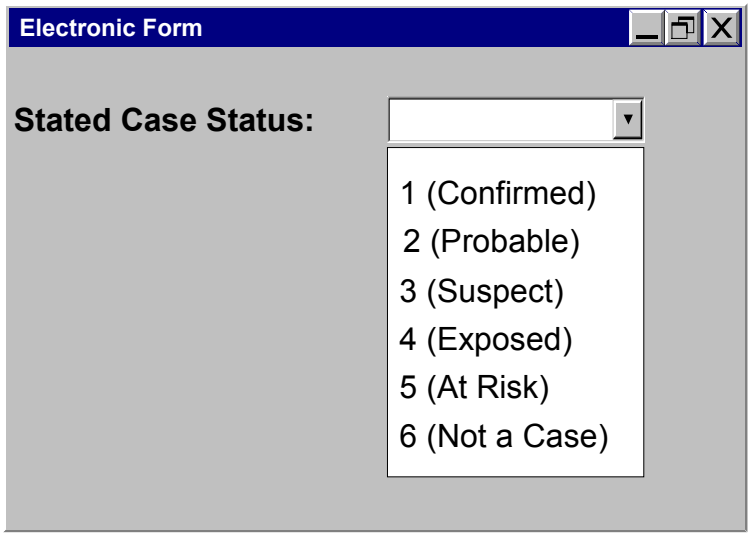
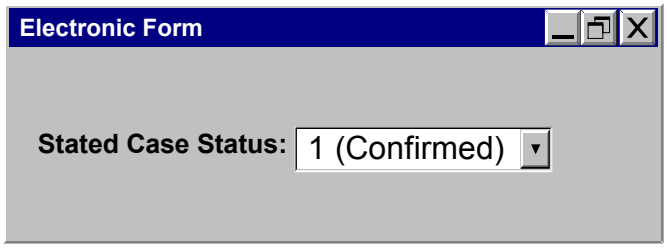


Figure 5: **Completed Electronic Form used to collect Stated Case Status**



Missing Values – Electronic Form
Examples of electronic forms using the associated Missing Value Reason (MVR) data element can be found in Appendix I – Missing Value Reason. The electronic form needs to handle the Missing Value Reason only if the program requires the rationale for a missing value for Stated Case Status. If the user selects a Missing Value Reason code during data entry, the Stated Case Status field will be blank and the screen will display the MVR information next to the blank field.

Data Processing: Validations and Edit Checks

Data elements entered in the electronic form will be edited as outlined below. If the program elects to use an associated Missing Value Reason data element for Stated Case Status, it will be edited as outlined in Appendix I – Missing Value Reason.

Stated Case Status:
- Valid values for the 1-character field are '1', '2', '3', '4', '5', and '6'
- It is appropriate for a program to support a subset of above noted field values for Stated Case Status in that all "levels" of a case definition (*At Risk; Exposed; Suspect; Probable; Confirmed; Not a Disease*) may not apply to a particular condition or disease

Data Processing: From Hardcopy to Storage

The following example illustrates the flow of information from data collection on the hardcopy form, to data entry into the electronic form, to validations and storage in the database.

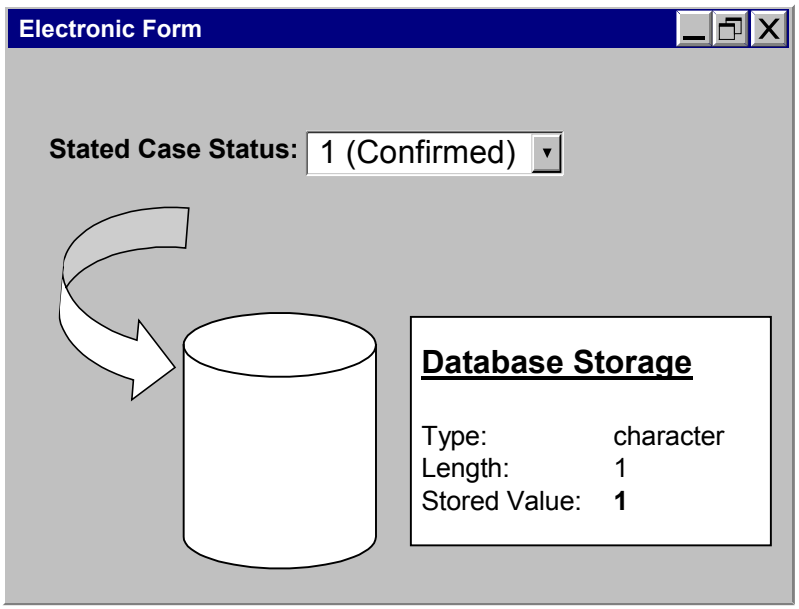
The process begins with the blank Hardcopy data collection form used to collect Stated Case Status:

The Stated Case Status information is captured on the form, creating a completed Hardcopy data collection form:

The process continues with a blank Electronic form/data entry screen used to capture Stated Case Status:

The value from the hardcopy form is entered into the Electronic form/data entry screen [with the use of drop-down lists of valid values] and then the edits and validations are performed on Stated Case Status:

The completed Electronic form/data entry screen is redisplayed and Stated Case Status is stored in the database:



Data Transmission: Electronic Data Interchange

Note: EDI sections are under construction.